

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE



DuWayne Gregory, Presiding Officer

Press Release

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PRESIDING OFFICER GREGORY SUPPORTS COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO FIGHT SICKLE CELL DISEASE *ATTENDS 5K WALK SPONSORED BY LEGISLATOR MARTINEZ*



From left: Legislator Martinez, Cindy Brown, Bernice Brown, Annie Brown, Presiding Officer Gregory

Amityville, NY – Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory joined Legislator Monica Martinez and Suffolk County residents at Heckscher State Park recently for the Inaugural 5K Walk to Fight Sickle Cell in Suffolk County.

Proceeds from the walk benefited The Sickle Cell Cure Foundation, Inc. and Queens Sickle Cell Advisory Network, Inc. Martinez hosted the event in remembrance of Brentwood resident, Bernest Brown, who succumbed to the disease at age 29.

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According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Sickle Cell Disease is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders that affects millions of people worldwide, including an estimated 90,000 to 100,000 Americans, occurring primarily in people of African American descent, with increasing numbers found among Hispanics, Native Americans and Caucasians.

“Progress is being made on improving treatments of symptoms and complications associated with this life-threatening disease, thanks in part to grass roots community efforts such as this one,” said Presiding Officer Gregory. “I am proud of the dedication of Suffolk County residents who came out today with Legislator Martinez to raise awareness and hopefully eradicate Sickle Cell Disease.”

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